History 494: Introduction to Public History
California State University, Chico
Spring 2010

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Office hours: W 1:30-3:00, Th 3:30-5:00

READINGS

Books:


5. Turabian, Kate. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*

6. Turabian, Kate; excerpts of her 6th edition available on-line as pdf document at course Web CT Blackboard Vista site.

Articles and Pamphlets on Reserve (*=not available on electronic reserve--available only in hard copy at Meriam Library Limited Loan room on 1st floor):


5. Hurtado, Albert. “Historians and Their Employers: A Perspective on Professional Ethics.”


**GRADING** will be based on class participation and successful completion of a historic site research paper (see last page of syllabus for a complete description). Research topics will be assigned during the first week of class. The paper will be due on Thursday, May 13. Class participation (i.e. discussion of assigned
readings and periodic informal progress reports on research projects) will comprise approximately 25% of the student’s course grade. The research paper will comprise approximately 75% of the course grade. The paper will actually receive three scores, each counting for 25% of the course grade. One score will be given for grammar, punctuation, and style; another for research; and a third for analysis. To help students improve their writing skills (and perhaps their overall grade!), a preliminary draft of the research paper may be turned in for stylistic review and comment by the instructor on Thursday, May 6. Such papers will be returned to the student within one week and will be due for final submission on Thursday, May 20. All students are required to provide a second copy of their final submissions for inclusion in the “Public and Local History Collection” that the instructor has developed in cooperation with the Meriam Library’s Department of Special Collections.

**Course Readings and Schedule**

**Week I**

January 26  Introduction of course and selection of research projects

January 28  Walking tour of local historic sites.  **Meet at northeast corner of Third and Hazel streets.**

**Week II: Introduction to Public History and Cultural Resources Management (CRM)**

February 2  Job opportunities in Public History: discuss letters by Gulliford, Mighetto, Weinstein, Anderson and Penningroth, Burnham, and Heath (CR items 1-4, 21 and 22); and reserve articles by Ronald W. Johnson; Johnson and Schene; and Owens (pp. 173-175 and 181-195 only).

February 4  No Class Meeting, but be sure to get started on the very important readings by Jackson and Kyvig and Marty. Read them carefully and take some good notes for next week’s discussion—they are essential for guiding your research!

**Week III: Getting Started!!!**

February 9

February 11  Brainstorming session: How to get started on a historic site history???

Discuss research manual by Giovanna Jackson (CR #5, pp 12-31) ; and Kyvig and Marty, *Nearby History*, chapters 4-9.
Week IV: Starting Points

February 16  Tour of Meriam Library’s Department of Special Collections with archivists Deborah Besnard and Pamela Kruger. **Meet at Special Collections, 3rd floor of library.** Please have read reserve article by Robert Lamb; and article by Mary Ellen Jones (CR #6).

February 18  Tour of Butte County Clerk-Recorder’s office and Assessor’s office with County Clerk-Recorder Candace Grubbs and Senior Cadastral Drafters Dorothy Balaz and Sue Lightell. **Meet at Butte County Clerk-Recorder’s office, Butte County Courthouse, 25 County Center Drive, in Oroville.**

Week V: Legal Foundations of CRM: NEPA, E.O. 11593, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the National Register of Historic Places

February 23  Tour of Meriam Library Newspaper and Federal Census collections with reference librarian George Thompson. **Meet at 2nd floor elevators, Meriam Library.**


Week VI: Historic, or just Old??? How to Tell the Difference: Applying the National Register Criteria for Historical Significance

March 2  Discuss King, pp. 87-107; and *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (CR #10). Please also skim, on reserve, *National Register Bulletin 15* and *National Register Bulletin 16-A.* **Please bring reader with you to class.**

March 4  Guest Speaker: Kris Zappettini, Chico Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) and Chico Heritage Association, on Gridley’s historic Hazel Hotel and the National Register nomination process.
Week VII: Section 106 and the “106 Review Process”

March 9  Tour of Chico City Hall with Senior Planner Bob Summerville, and building inspectors Jerry Powers and Linda Edmonds. Introduction to accessing Building Files and Planning Files. **Meet at 2nd floor Public Counter** in main City Hall building behind the City Council chambers building, 411 Main Street.

March 11  Discuss King, pp. 109-136, 139-151, 154-163, 164-168, 175-186; and *Five-Minute Look at Section 106* (CR #8)

SPRING BREAK: March 15-March 19

Week VIII: California State Historic Landmarks and local Points of Historic Interest programs

March 23  Discuss California State Historic Landmarks and local Points of Historic Interest program forms and instructions (skim selections #11-18 in CR) **Please bring course reader to class.**

March 25  Guest Speaker: Stephen Mikesell, former Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer of California, California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), Sacramento

Week IX: Public Historians and Archaeological Sites

March 30  Discuss King, pp. 257-280; and article on historic information centers (CR #19)

April 1  Campus Furlough Day: No Class Meeting

Week X: Preservation Law and Politics

April 6  Tour of the Northeastern Center of the California Historical Resources Information System with Coordinator Amy Huberland. **Meet at 25 Main Street, Room 201** (NE corner, First and Main streets)

April 8  Discuss King, pp. 210-223, 227-231; the exchange of letters to the editor of the Chico *Enterprise-Record* regarding the Senator Theatre (CR #20); and the three articles on reserve by Lucke, Allison, and Reichl.
Week XI: Assessing Architectural Styles: Victorian Homes

April 13  Discuss Foster, pp. xiii-xvi, and 237-287, and skim 367-389; and skim Giovanna Jackson (CR #5, pp. 32-66).

April 15  What Style is It? **Meet at Bidwell Mansion** and **bring Foster with you.**

Week XII: Public History and the Environment

April 20  Discuss reserve articles by Colton; Stirling; Quivik; Bookspan, “History Requited”; and Bookspan, “Potentially Responsible Party Searches.”

April 22  A Brief Return to English 101, Part I: Some Tips for Better Writing.

Week XIII: Professional Dilemmas and Ethics

April 27  A Brief Return to English 101, Part II: Documentation: Quotations, Footnotes/Endnotes, and Bibliographies

April 29  Discuss reserve articles by Novick; Hurtado; Littlefield; Kousser, and Page. Also on reserve, skim “Ethical Guidelines for the Historian” by the National Council on Public History (NCPH), and “Standards of Professional Conduct” by the California Council for the Promotion of History (CCPH).

Week XIV: Practicing Public History in the Private and Public Sectors

May 4  **Guest Speaker:** Stephen R. Wee, JRP Historical Consulting Services, Davis, CA. Please have read in advance “Practicing Public History: A Conversation with W. Turrentine Jackson” (on reserve).

May 6  **Guest Speakers:** Linda Johnson, Sara Kuzak, and Jessica Herrick, California State Archives, Sacramento, CA.

Optional due date for preliminary drafts of research papers for stylistic review.
Week XV:

May 11

May 13  Papers due. Group assessment of course. Return of drafts submitted previous week for stylistic review.

FINALS WEEK:

May 20  Revised papers due.

Historic Site Evaluation Project

The research assignment for History 494 is similar to the type of projects public historians typically undertake in the fields of historic preservation and cultural resources management. It is also designed to familiarize you with one of the most important historic preservation programs that we will be reading about and discussing in class: the National Register of Historic Places (created by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966). Although created by federal law, the National Register is administered in our state by the California State Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), which is headed by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and supervised by the State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC).

Your assignment has three parts. First, you must research and write a comprehensive history of your site and any pre-1950 structures still existing on it (this will comprise the largest portion of your paper).

Second, you will need to write a brief “National Register Eligibility Assessment,” in which you carefully explain (based on your findings) whether or not it qualifies for placement on the National Register of Historic Places. In some cases, you may arrive at a negative finding, i.e. that your site/structure is not historically significant enough to qualify for the National Register (in such negative cases, you may want to go on and assess whether your topic might instead qualify as a California State Historical Landmark or a local Point of Historic Interest, though this is not required). In any event, you will need to clearly justify your conclusions regarding National Register eligibility based on your findings and the criteria for historical significance established by the law.

Third, you will need to fill out and complete two standard one-page forms used by the California State Office of Historic Preservation to record historic sites and structures: the
“Primary Record” form and the “Building, Structure, and Object Record” form (copies of both forms are contained in CR #17).

Endnotes and Bibliography should be appended to Part I of your paper, and all endnote and bibliographic entries must by written in the style specified in Kate Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. (If you prefer, you may use footnotes instead of endnotes).

**Students are required to submit 2 copies of their papers** to the instructor. One copy will be graded and returned to the student. The second copy will be deposited with the Meriam Library’s department of Special Collections and become part of our permanent and growing collection of original student research papers on local history completed in History 492 and 494.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Among other goals, this course is specifically designed to help students achieve Outcomes #1, 2, 3, and 6 of the History Department's Student Learning Outcomes for the History Major.